

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/697,922

Examiner

Kishor Mayekar

Applicant(s)

STEENKISTE ET AL.

Art Unit

1753

## -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the response of 12 July 2007 and the interview of 20 July 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 19-46.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

### Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 10/3 and (2) 05/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date 20 July 2007.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

Kishor Mayekar  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 1753

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Election/Restrictions*

1. Applicant's election with traverse of invention of Group III, claims 19-33 in the reply filed on 12 July 2007 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that claims to the methods of Groups III and IV and claims to the products of Groups I and II are closely related and should be considered together in the present application. This is found persuasive to claims to the methods of Groups III and IV, however not persuasive to claims to products of Groups I and II because the record reflects that these groups are patentably distinct and have been properly considered.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

### *Examiner's Amendment*

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Attorney Douglas Fekete on 18 September 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

Art Unit: 1753

In the Claims:

Cancel non-elected claims 1-18 to the filing of a divisional application.

Claim 24, line 2, replace "a band" with --the first band--.

Claim 26, line 1, after "step e)", insert --further--.

Claim 27, line 1, after "step e)", insert --further--.

Claim 28, line 1, after "step e)", insert --further--.

Claim 29, line 1, after "step e)", insert --further--.

Claim 39, line 1, after "step e)", insert --further--.

Claim 40, line 1, after "step e)", insert --further--.

Claim 41, line 1, after "step e)", insert --further--.

Claim 42, line 1, after "step e)", insert --further--.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Because the prior art references do not in a method of securing a plurality of ceramic elements to each other the recited step of entraining to form at least a first band of adhered material on the ceramic elements and secure the ceramic elements together in combination with other recited steps as claimed in claims 19-33; and in a method of forming a non-thermal plasma reactor the recited step of entraining in combination with other recited steps as claimed in claims 34-46.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than

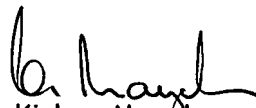
Art Unit: 1753

the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kishor Mayekar whose telephone number is (571) 272-1339. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nam Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-1342. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

  
Kishor Mayekar  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1753